

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-27 remain in this application. Claims 1, 3, 7 and 8 were amended in this response. Claims 5, 6, 9 and 11 were canceled in the response of June 8, 2008.

Objections to the application

Claims 1-4, 7-8, 10, 12-27 are objected to because of informalities. Applicants have amended the claims to address the informalities.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-7 and 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Malik (US Patent No. 7,003,551). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant's invention includes the limitation of determining an origin of the attachment document to the electronic message, by determining whether the attachment document was created at the location of the sender of the electronic message. Malik does not perform this step. Malik can identify an attachment file from a storage location. However, Malik cannot determine if the attachment was originated at the sender location. For example, if the sender is forwarding a message with an attachment, the sender did not originate that attachment. The present invention would determine that the sender originated the attachment. In that case, the method of the present invention would not be necessary because there is no duplication in storing an attachment document. In order to sustain a novelty rejection each element of the claim has to be described by the cited reference. In this invention, the step of determining an origin of the attachment to the electronic message, by determining whether the attachment was created at the location of the sender of the electronic message, is not therefore the rejection should be withdrawn.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 103

Claims 8, 10, 12, 14 and 21-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Malik (US Patent No. 7,003,551) in view of Dunn (U.S. Patent application publication 20020034688). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Examiner states that Malik does not explicitly indicate when the determination is that the attachment document was locally created, determining whether the electronic mail recipient desires to modify the attachment document that was locally created at the destination location of the electronic message. Examiner further asserts that Dunn discloses when user desires to modify..., the attachment, links to the attachment are provided with an email message. Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Dunn does not inquire whether a user desires to modify an attachment. In Dunn, the method responds to a modification of the attachment but there is no initial query of the user as described and claimed in the present invention. Therefore, Applicants submit that the step of determining whether the user desires to modify an attachment is not taught or suggested in Dunn.

Further, the combination of Malik and Dunn do not produce Applicant's present invention. The combination of Malik and Dunn do not perform the previously mentioned limitation of determining an origin of the attachment document to the electronic message, by determining whether the attachment document was created at the location of the sender of the electronic message.

For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Applicant believes this reply to be fully responsive to all outstanding issues and place this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,



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